

Halifax metro

MAJOR MAYOR MEETUP
metroNEWS



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 5-7, 2016

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Todd Armstrong gets pied by student Ben Robertson on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO



A SWEET IDEA

Teachers in Clayton Park take pies in face for student's cause

metroNEWS

Cameras catch all

AIRPORT

Staff allegedly dug through luggage; more arrests expected



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

Three people facing charges for allegedly going through checked luggage at Halifax's airport were caught by the eagle eyes of security staff.

"It came across on our security video and our security folks passed that onto the RCMP. It's worth noting that we have over 400 security cameras throughout the airport," said Halifax International Airport Authority spokeswoman Ashley Gallant.

"I don't want to say you're always on camera, but it's quite a number. There are security cameras in the majority of places." In a news release, the RCMP said they received information on Jan. 28 about a possible theft from luggage on a flight prior to takeoff.

Working with security at the airport, police said they identified

cargo-handling service employees who "were allegedly searching through checked luggage after the bags had been loaded onto an aircraft during the evening of January 27."

Gallant said this kind of incident had not happened at the Halifax airport "in recent memory."

She said in addition to locking checked baggage, they encourage travellers to avoid placing valuables in their checked luggage altogether.

"You're going through a lot of different places and valuables are probably best kept in your carry-on," Gallant said.

This week, police arrested two 23-year-old men, one from Steviacke and another from Dutch Settlement, along with a 19-year-old Halifax man.

All three are facing theft charges, with the 23-year-old Steviacke man facing a charge of possession of stolen property. The accused are due in court at a later date.

"The investigation is still ongoing and I can't speak to that further," Cpl. Andrew Joyce of the RCMP said in an interview.

"But it would be very, very unfair to say it is a common thing."



All of those cameras is one of the ways we keep our airport passengers, visitors and all our employees safe. Ashley Gallant

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Road to Rio starts in Halifax

GYMNASTICS

Canada's top gymnasts in town for 'key competition'



Kristen Lipscombe
Metro | Halifax

Believe it or not, Ellie Black's goals for this weekend's 2016 Elite Canada Artistic Gymnastics Competition aren't about winning medals with hometown fans watching.

Her goal for the Halifax event is, in fact, much more straightforward.

"I want to be the best athlete that I can be," the 20-year-old local gymnast said Thursday evening inside the Canada Games Centre, which is hosting the major national event through Sunday.

"Wherever that ranks me, that's going to be what I've worked towards," Black said of her objective, despite already being a highly decorated international and national level athlete.

Most recently, that includes winning three gold medals at the 2015 Pan American Games, one gold at the 2014 Commonwealth Games and another gold at the 2014 Pacific Rim Championships.

She also represented the red and white at the 2012 Olympic Summer Games in London, finishing eighth on the vault and fifth with the Canadian team.

But for Black, "it's not about the end result; it's about the



Halifax gymnast Ellie Black warms up at the Canada Games Centre on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO



It's not every day that you get the opportunity to compete in front of your home crowd. Ellie Black

process."

Not to say this weekend's competition isn't an important one.

"This is one of the two main national competitions for us

this year," Black explained. "The highest level gymnasts are here."

Elite Canada brings together the top novice, junior and senior gymnasts from across the

country, with the men's event helping finalize this season's national team and the women's competition counting towards high performance qualification.

Even Black, who trains out of Halifax Alta Gymnastics Club on Bayers Road, is still battling for one of five spots on the Canadian contingent that will compete at

the 2016 Summer Winter Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The 2016 Elite Canada Artistic Gymnastics Competition in Halifax represents the first step on the road to Rio this season, she explains.

"This is the start of that process," Black said. "Everyone is still vying for those spots."

+ VENUES

Gymnastics Nova Scotia, Halifax Alta Gymnastics Club, Taiso Gymnastics Training Centre and Titan's Gymnastics and Trampoline Club are hosting the 2016 Elite Canada Artistic Gymnastics Competition. Visit gymcan.org for full schedule information.

Black is one of about 20 local gymnasts strutting their stuff at the Canada Games Centre this weekend, also including 2013 national men's champion Hugh Smith, 31, of Dartmouth, according to organizing committee chairman Dan Macdonald.

"It's one of the key competitions," Macdonald, also a Gymnastics Canada board member, said while watching training sessions Thursday evening.

Although tickets for this weekend's events are no longer available online, they can be purchased at the door starting Friday morning, Macdonald said.

Children age \$12 can catch the action for \$10 per day, while adult tickets cost \$15 per day.

Although Elite Canada is a big competition for each and every gymnast competing, Black said this weekend is especially meaningful for Nova Scotian athletes.

"To be able to compete in front of friends and family and the community, I think is very special," she said.

"We never really get the opportunity to do that, so it's great to just show them what we can do."

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Event 'in honour of my mom'

LUNG ASSOCIATION

Student raises cash with pie-in-the-face fundraiser



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

A Halifax teen and her school raised hundreds of dollars in a sweet tribute — with chocolate sauce on top — to her mother, who recently passed away.

Kali Alexander, 14, said she wanted something to focus on around the anniversary of her mother's death at the end of January, when the idea of having a pie fundraiser for the Lung Association of Nova Scotia came to her.

"It was really important for me to do this ... in honour of my mom," Alexander said with a smile on Thursday in the junior high's guidance office.

"It was such a cause dear and near to my heart."

Alexander said her mother died last Jan. 27 due to lung problems, and had been living with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) for years.

About a year after Alexander was born, her mom had a lung removed due to a disease and lived for 13 more years with one lung, Alexander said.

Alexander said she was always "a tough lady," but caught a super bug last year.

"It just really hit her hard,



Clayton Park Junior High student Kali Alexander helped raise money for the Lung Association in memory of her mother.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

and she just wasn't able to recover from it."

Although the past year was

tough, Alexander said, she got support from her friends and family, especially her

little seven-year-old brother who has been keeping her and their dad busy "doing all sorts of fun stuff trying to keep us happy."

Two weeks ago, Alexander presented a slideshow about her mom and the types of re-

search projects and assistance to people with COPD the Lung Association does, and told the crowd of students that those who brought in \$20 for the fundraiser could throw a pie in a teacher's face.

After a student asked what

\$800

The amount of money raised at Thursday's event.

would happen if a certain math teacher was requested for multiple pies in the face, Alexander considered splitting them up — but the teacher interrupted.

"I will take eight pies for the cause, I don't care," Alexander quoted the teacher as saying with a laugh.

"That was definitely an awesome response. I was really touched by that."

After a week and a half of events like face-painting, paying \$1 to wear a hat to school, and having money jars in each class, Alexander told an assembly Thursday they had raised \$800 for the cause.

Although the students cheered for the final number, and when a representative from the Lung Association accepted the cheque, the loudest shrieks and laughs began as gleeful kids pushed pie plates of whipped cream and chocolate sauce into their teachers' faces.

Alexander said she'd like to make it an annual fundraiser to pay tribute to the association for everything they did to help her mom, and make life better for others.

"They could put it toward ... trying to help them have a better living, and just have them be able to go longer with their loved ones as best as they can."



It was such a cause dear and near to my heart.

Kali Alexander

CRIME NOTES

Shotgun, laptops stolen from construction site

Halifax police are investigating after they say two likely connected incidents saw a shotgun and laptops stolen from separate construction sites in Fall River.

On Wednesday around 4:50 p.m., Halifax RCMP responded to a call about a break, enter and theft at a construction site on Perrin Drive where a trailer and excavator had been broken into. A police release said a shotgun, ammunition, and laptops were stolen from the site.

About two kilometres away on the same road, two men were spotted trying to steal an excavator at another construction site Wednesday afternoon.

Police say they believe

the two incidents are connected, and the investigation is ongoing.
METRO

Woman charged with making false complaint

The independent watchdog that oversees police in Nova Scotia has filed charges against a New Waterford woman, after alleging she made false complaints against a Cape Breton Regional Police Service officer.

The charges come from the Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT) on Thursday in a report on allegations provided by Kathryn McNeil, 49, against a member of the Cape Breton Regional Police Service last summer.

On different occasions during July, August and

September, McNeil made complaints to the regional police and SIRT regarding the actions of a member of the Cape Breton police force, according to the report.

Because the matters involved allegations of possible domestic violence and criminal harassment committed by a police officer, police referred the matter to SIRT.

After completing its investigation, SIRT determined that the officer should not be charged, and that charges of public mischief with intent to mislead a SIRT investigator, attempt to obstruct justice, fabricating evidence, and breach of undertaking should instead be laid against McNeil.

TC MEDIA

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Show me the money: Savage

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mayor wants to know when federal funds will flow in



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

Halifax Mayor Mike Savage said Thursday the country's mayors are united in making sure the federal government follows through on its promise to pay up.

Savage was in Ottawa Thursday where the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Big City Mayors Caucus was meeting to talk about planned infrastructure projects and to meet with six federal ministers and the prime minister Friday.

"We've all worked very well together," Savage said — though that doesn't mean each mayor isn't watching closely to see what the others get from the federal government.

"We always check out who gets what," he said.

"That's a natural part of do-



Mayor Mike Savage, shown here outside Halifax City Hall in December, has been in Ottawa this week discussing infrastructure projects with the Big City Mayors Caucus. JEFF HARPER/METRO

ing business, but at this point in time, the mayors are very united."

Justin Trudeau's Liberals campaigned on a promise

to spend \$60 billion in extra infrastructure funding for Canada's cities over the next 10 years, and took the unusual step of promising to run a

deficit in order to do so.

On Thursday, the mayors were hoping to find out when that money would flow.

"We're looking for as much

clarity as we can get, recognizing some of that may not come till the budget in March," Savage said.

"But we've got a really amazing list of cabinet ministers coming to see us, and we'll have a chance to see the prime minister tomorrow, so we're very pleased with how the relationship has been unfolding."

The mayors were set to meet with Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi Thursday evening.

"All the mayors are looking for as much information as we can get as to when money might flow for infrastructure projects, how it would flow and what's covered."

When Sohi was in Halifax a few weeks ago, meeting with Savage and regional councilors, the mayor outlined some of the projects for which he'll be looking for funding.

Though he recognizes it's not "particularly sexy," top of mind for Savage is fixing the city's aging water infrastructure.

He's also hoping for money towards public transit and affordable housing initiatives.

BAYERS ROAD

Girl struck by driver in hit-and-run

Police are looking for the driver of a vehicle after a 14-year-old girl was struck on Thursday morning.

Halifax Regional Police say at about 8:30 a.m., a car on George Dauphinee Avenue hit the victim who was crossing the street as she walked along Bayers Road.

"The vehicle didn't stop at the scene and the girl continued on her way to school but was later taken to hospital," a police release stated.

Police don't have a description of the driver, but say the vehicle was a four-door blue car.

There was also passenger in the vehicle, described as a man in his 20s.

Anyone with information on the incident is asked to contact police. METRO



The girl continued to school but was later taken to hospital.

Halifax Regional Police

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TRANSPORTATION

No ship for ferry to Maine

Nova Scotia's transportation minister says there will be a ferry running between Yarmouth and Maine this year, despite the fact that the company hired to operate the service doesn't have a ship yet.

Geoff MacLellan says acquiring a ferry is a complicated process and he trusts that Bay Ferries Ltd. is going through it as quickly as possible.

Bay Ferries issued a news release Thursday saying it has been looking for a vessel since the fall, but can't discuss the search because it's competing against other operators.

"We recognize the concerns ... that ferry service out of Yarmouth continues in 2016 and beyond, and are doing everything we can to reach that goal," the statement reads in part.

The province named the company as operator of the service late last year. Nova Star Cruises had operated the ferry for two years and received a total of \$39.5 million in provincial subsidies, but fell well short of its passenger targets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'A very strong start': Casey

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Province happy with education action plan's Year 1 results



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

The province provided an update Thursday on its Action Plan for Education, highlighting its successes and challenges over Year 1 of its five-year plan.

During a news conference in Halifax, Education and Early Childhood Development Minister Karen Casey described the first year as "a very strong start."

She said highlights of the past year included continuing with a multi-year plan to provide smaller class sizes and streamlining the Primary to Grade 3 curriculum to have a stronger focus on

math and literacy.

"In addition to what we heard from Nova Scotians, we have student assessment reports and we need to use that data to make sure that what we are doing is responding to what the data is telling us," Casey said.

More math supports were introduced for students, including early intervention programs and the hiring of 52 math mentors. The province is also continuing to reinstate its reading recovery program for Grade 1 students.

"While there has been a lot of success there are still challenges," Casey said.

"As we were moving through the implementation of the action plan we recognized the need for some things to be added to the actions that were there."

Those challenges included the need to update the province's math and literacy strategies across all grade levels and to introduce coding across the curriculum.

Casey said the province will also work on establishing a

52

Number of math mentors hired by the province.



Education Minister Karen Casey speaks to the media on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

new student attendance policy and developing standards for school teachers and administrators.

"Teachers certainly aren't against education reform, but it depends on the implemen-

tation of the reform. Nobody wants to see change for the sake of change," said Nova Scotia Teachers' Union president Shelley Morse, in response to Thursday's announcement.

"If it is change that is going to improve student learning than teachers are all for that, but some of the recommendations were rushed and teachers weren't given proper time to properly implement them."

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NOTICE OF PURCHASE

Herring Cove, Halifax County

Take Notice that on January 5, 2016 the following Certificate of Purchase No. 108342628 was registered at the land registry:

Certificate of Purchase

This certifies that on October 29, 2015 the land located in Herring Cove, Halifax County and more particularly described in this Certificate vested absolutely in Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Nova Scotia, pursuant to Halifax Regional Municipality Acts of 2008, chapter 39, Part VI, section 149. Legal description, assessment account number, property identification number (PID), municipal tax account number, and land registration document number for each parcel are shown below.

The land described in this Certificate will cease to vest in Her Majesty if

- (i) on application made before April 29, 2017 a person proves to the satisfaction of the Minister of Natural Resources or a judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia on appeal from the Minister of Natural Resources that the person owns the land; and
- (ii) the person pays the taxes, interest and allowance for expenses paid by the Minister of Natural Resources.

PID 40076929

Assessment Account 04964616

Municipal Tax Account 04964616

Compiled Plan CP 569

Legal Description:

ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, partially surrounding Powers Pond, Herring Cove, in the County of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia, identified as Owner Unknown lands and outlined in bold line on Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources compiled plan cp569, said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at crown post HX1951;

THENCE easterly along the northern boundary of Angela Dorey and Timothy Dorey lands (PID 40076713) to the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond;

THENCE northerly, easterly and southerly along the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond to the most western corner of Janet McCallum and Francis McCallum lands (PID 40076721);

THENCE easterly along a northern boundary of Janet McCallum and Francis McCallum lands (PID 40076721) to the most western corner of Janet McCallum and Francis McCallum lands (PID 40360752), said point being situate 10.06 metres perpendicular from the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond;

THENCE northerly, westerly and southerly along a southern boundary of Crown Land (PID 40601023) parallel to and upland 10.06 metres distant from the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond to a point upland 10.06 metres from the ordinary high water mark of The Neck and Gully;

THENCE northwesterly parallel to and upland 10.06 metres distant from the ordinary high water mark of The Neck and Gully to a southern corner of Crown Land (PID 40601023);

THENCE southwesterly along a southern boundary of Crown Land (PID 40601023) 20.12 metres across The Neck and Gully to a southern corner of Crown Land (PID 40601023) situate upland 10.06 metres from the ordinary high water mark of The Neck and Gully;

THENCE southeasterly parallel to and upland 10.06 metres distant from the ordinary high water mark of The Neck and Gully to a point situate upland and being perpendicular 10.06 metres from the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond;

THENCE southerly parallel to and upland 10.06 metres distant from the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**.

AND ALSO:

ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being at Powers Pond, Herring Cove, in the County of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia, identified as Owner Unknown lands and outlined in bold line on Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources compiled plan cp569, said parcel being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the northern boundary of Highway 253 at the eastern limits of a brook flowing out of Powers Pond;

THENCE northerly and easterly along the ordinary high water mark of Powers Pond to a point on the northern boundary of Highway 253;

THENCE southwesterly along the northern boundary of Highway 253 to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**.

CONTAINING an area of 1.1 hectares more or less.

Order in Council Number 1999-498 dated October 13, 1999 authorized the Minister of Natural Resources to acquire this land and execute this Certificate.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 17th day of December, 2015.

Gretchen Pohlkamp
Executive Director
Land Services Branch
Department of Natural Resources



IN BRIEF

Clean-products company wins \$225K in startup funds

A Nova Scotia company that turns municipal waste into clean products such as biofuel has won \$225,000 through Innovacorp as part of a startup competition.

Chester-based Sustane Technologies Inc. beat out 187 submissions from entrepreneurs to win the provincial Crown corporation's top prize of a \$100,000 seed investment.

Sustane also won \$125,000 in cash and services for being named a regional winner and having the best submission for waste diversion.

In all, Innovacorp handed out \$950,000 in cash, seed investment and business-building services to the competition's first- and second-place winners.

The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency provided \$100,000 for the competition. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pets die from smoke inhalation in house fire

At least six animals died as the result of a house fire in Nova Scotia on Thursday.

Kentville firefighters responded to the original alarm at 3:22 p.m. to Centreville, Kings Co.

"We were able to get all the animals out," Fire Chief Ryan MacEachern said of the six or seven pets, "but we couldn't revive them."

"Four or five" dogs and

two cats died from smoke inhalation, he said.

"I feel the family's pain," MacEachern said. "Our pets are a big part of our family"

Speaking at the scene, the chief said he observed heavy smoke "coming from all the windows" of the residence on his arrival.

Later, he added that the fire appeared to have started in the basement area and was likely woodstove-related.

TC MEDIA



Premier Stephen McNeil is standing by health minister Leo Graveline despite calls from the opposition parties for Graveline's resignation over changes to seniors' drug coverage. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Province to reassess drug plan

HEALTH

Premier says pharmacare changes poorly communicated

Controversial changes to a seniors drug plan are being reassessed after hearing concerns from seniors and advocacy groups, Nova Scotia's premier said Thursday as he acknowledged that the changes weren't initially communicated properly.

Stephen McNeil said his government is open to addressing concerns about the revamp.

"(Seniors) have raised issues, real-life stories where people were coming and telling them, 'This is what it would mean to me,'" said McNeil after a cabinet meeting Thursday.

"We want to make sure there isn't any unintended consequences to our decision which was causing some more difficulty on people who are just over the threshold when it comes to paying the pharmacare premium."

Pharmacare is based on a blend of government contributions and premiums charged to seniors, which under the new system will be based on the incomes of single people and couples.

The province has said under the revised system, 12,000 seniors who previously paid a premium won't pay one beginning

April 1, while wealthier seniors will see their payments rise.

McNeil also conceded that a letter to seniors outlining the changes to the program was "inappropriate" and didn't convey the changes accurately.

"It left the impression that everyone was being hit with a major increase, when two thirds of seniors are having the same or reduced premiums," said McNeil. "That letter certainly left the wrong impression. There's no question."

The Nova Scotia Health Coalition has complained to the Ombudsman's office over the Health Department's poor communication about the program changes.

In a letter to the Ombudsman posted on its website Thursday, the coalition said there has been a lack of information about the changes and the information that has been provided has caused confusion among seniors.

"Seniors and their families across the province have been mistreated by this government's incoherent communications around this issue," it said.

But McNeil said the revamped program was designed to help seniors with low incomes.

"We wanted to ensure that low-income Nova Scotians were having access to pharmacare and not having to make choices between filling a (prescription) and one of the basic necessities of life: heat," said McNeil.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TOYOTA

Police launch anti-trafficking campaign



Halifax Regional Police have launched a new program that encourages businesses in the hospitality and transportation industries keep an eye out for suspicious activities. METRO FILE

TARGETED INITIATIVE

Project is modelled after U.K. initiatives



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

Halifax Regional Police and the RCMP have launched a human-trafficking awareness campaign targeting hotels, airports, taxi drivers and bus drivers.

The campaign, titled Say Something If You See Something, is modelled after simi-

lar ones in the United Kingdom. The goal is to show hospitality and transportation employees what human trafficking looks like so that they can look out for the signs.

"We're asking folks that work as front line employees in these industries to basically be our eyes and ears and report any suspicious behaviours," RCMP Const. Tammy Lobb said Thursday.

Posters and brochures will

be made available listing the signs of human trafficking, like people booking last minute flights, people who aren't in control of their own identification, or hotel rooms with lots of male visitors.

Lobb said human trafficking isn't exactly a worsening problem in the region, but she believes police have been doing a better job of creating awareness in the past three to five years.

"It is occurring here, and

+ MANY FORMS

RCMP Const. Tammy Lobb said pimps and human traffickers "come in all different shapes and sizes," pointing to recent cases where young women and teenage boys were charged with human trafficking.

we wanna do the best job we can at educating everybody that we possibly can to help us out and to identify possible victims," she said.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

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ment kicks off with musical talent Hind-sight, February 5th starting at 9pm. Labatt will be sampling Goose Island IPA on Friday, starting at 6pm.

In honour of our one year mark and recent dining room expansion, we are celebrating our official Grand Opening this weekend with a Beatles tribute by special musical guest and local legend Hal Bruce on February 6th. Arrive early to get a seat as we will fill up fast. Bulwark Cider and Propeller Brewing Company will be

handing out samples starting at 7pm. Prizes from Garrison Brewing Co. and Guinness will also be up for grabs starting at 5pm.

Special thanks to our friends at Labatt for their ongoing support during this event.

Don't forget to make The British Bulldog Gastropub your place to be for your next special occasion! We're now taking reservations for Valentines Day. Follow us on Facebook for more details!



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NICOLE CAMPBELL

Case delayed to discuss two new charges



Robert Jason MacKenzie.
TC MEDIA

A 36-year-old man charged with the murder of Nicole Campbell will return to Pictou provincial court later this month.

Robert Jason MacKenzie, who was charged Dec. 30 with the murder of 33-year-old Campbell of New Glasgow, made a brief court appearance Thursday during which time all matters were adjourned until Feb. 17.

His lawyer asked for the

adjournment to speak to his client about the completion of his psychiatric assessment and to discuss two new charges that were brought into court today.

In addition to the second degree, MacKenzie is charged with stealing prescription medication while armed with a weapon, a knife, between Nov. 30 and Dec. 17.

He is also charged with carrying a weapon with the

+ UNTIL THEN

Robert Jason MacKenzie is remanded until his next court appearance on Feb. 17.

purpose to commit a crime from the same offence date.

No pleas have been taken on any of the charges.

TC MEDIA



Thomas Ted Barrett. TC MEDIA

Judge allows statement by dead witness

COURT

Murder trial of Thomas Ted Barrett continues

A judge hearing a murder trial ruled Thursday she'll accept a chilling statement from a deceased witness who told police the accused experienced a rush of adrenaline as he strangled a 19-year-old woman.

Judge Robin Gogan heard arguments on the "beyond-the-grave" evidence over the past week at the Nova Scotia Supreme Court second-degree murder trial of Thomas Ted Barrett in Sydney. Gogan's decision means most of the 2009 videotaped interview of Sheryl Ann Flynn describing a conversation with Barrett will be admitted into the case.

"I am in agreement with the Crown submission that common sense doesn't support the view that Sheryl Flynn would fabricate the allegations against the accused," wrote Gogan. Barrett is charged in the death of Brett Elizabeth MacKinnon, whose decayed remains were found in 2008 near a Glace Bay hiking trail, two years after she disappeared.

It's one of two second-degree murder trials the 40-year-old Cape Breton man is facing.

Barrett was also charged in the death of Laura Jessome in 2012, after her remains were discovered May 25 in a hockey bag floating on the Mira River.

Gogan ruled she found Flynn's

2006 statement to be consistent throughout, and there was no evidence that Flynn — who died in October 2013 of a methadone and clonazepam overdose — was on drugs at the time she spoke to two detectives.

"Ms. Flynn's demeanor is consistent through the statement," she wrote in her decision given Thursday. "She was able to recount details in a clear, concise and sequential manner without any obvious difficulty."

Gogan also said that the witness had given evidence during her interview that made both positive and negative references to Barrett, suggesting she wasn't motivated by hatred.

After an initial, hour-long conversation with two detectives, Flynn agreed to a taped interview about her encounter with Barrett in her vehicle during a drive to a coffee shop in Glace Bay.

"As they sat in the car and talked, the accused said that he killed Brett MacKinnon and that it was an 'adrenaline rush' to strangle somebody and watch them die," the judge wrote. The young woman said she hadn't been in a relationship with the accused, but she had been on the telephone with him many times and had visited him in jail. THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ TO COME

The Crown and defence are expected to make their closing arguments in the trial on Friday.

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Big-city mayors seeking big bucks

The mayors of Canada's largest cities are in Ottawa to make their pitches for federal funding, and this time, the prime minister will hear their requests. Metro compiled a list of "The Big Asks" from seven of the nation's biggest hubs. Here's what the leaders are looking for from the federal government.



1 Halifax

Mayor Mike Savage

Savage said Thursday he's looking for as much money as he can get from the federal government for infrastructure projects in his city. He said there is \$2 billion in work that needs to be done over the next two decades to bring the city's aging water infrastructure up to environmental standards and to sustain the city's growing population.



2 Ottawa

Mayor Jim Watson

is asking the federal government for funding for the \$3-billion Phase 2 of the city's light rail transit. Watson noted they already have that commitment from the prime minister. However, he is also asking for funding for affordable housing, and for the feds to cut the red tape so municipalities can get the infrastructure cash quicker.



3 Toronto

Mayor John Tory

has made it clear he wants federal funding to be "fair and stable" so cities can budget effectively. In terms of specifics, he's asking the federal government to cover one-third of the estimated \$2.6 billion in repair backlog at Toronto Community Housing. Tory also wants federal cash for projects like the city's downtown relief line and a waterfront LRT.



4 Winnipeg

Mayor Brian Bowman

has three priorities: transit, infrastructure and the environment. While he wouldn't get into specific dollar amounts, Winnipeg has several massive projects on the horizon, including the second phase of a six-phase rapid transit system (\$590 million) and preventing the city's ancient sewers from overflowing into the rivers (\$1.2 billion).



5 Calgary

Mayor Naheed Nenshi

is also asking for infrastructure money. He wants a block funding setup with reporting mechanisms that allow cities to use federal money for projects right away, such as in the area of local affordable housing. He also hopes the mayors talk about cities' roles in climate change and how they can support the feds in what they're trying to accomplish.



6 Edmonton

Mayor Don Iveson

is hoping the "unprecedented" access that big city mayors are getting from the federal government this week could mean support for social and affordable housing, as well as funding for the city's LRT. Iveson said over the next decade he would like to be able to expand light rail transit.



7 Vancouver

Mayor Gregor Robertson

plans to leverage \$250 million worth of city-owned land to entice the federal government into building new affordable housing. He is asking the feds for \$500 million over five years to build 3,500 units of social housing on 20 city-owned sites. It's the largest housing proposal ever made by a civic government to Canada.

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SYRIAN CRISIS

Calgary opens arms to first refugee baby



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

The very first Syrian refugee baby born in Calgary — and possibly in Canada — since the government's commitment to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees was welcomed into the world in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

But the birth of baby Mohammad Al Masalma has quite the story to go along with it.

"I wasn't expecting to be here when I had the baby," said the mother, Seham Talab through a translator. "But, I feel so grateful."

Talab went in for a clinic



Mohammad Al Masalma
JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

appointment Tuesday, not expecting to have her baby that day, and was rushed to the hospital where she was told she was in labour — already four centimetres dilated.

While husband Yahya Al Masalma was at home caring for their other children, two volunteers from the Syrian Refugee Support group stepped up to help Talab through the delivery.

"She's in a new country, she doesn't speak any English and in her country they do things very differently there," said Ronnie Saadeh, who rushed to be by Talab's side when she heard what was happening.

Sreen Bishawi, the other volunteer who helped Talab through the birth of Mohammad said it was actually the first time they had ever met her.

Talab, who, along with her husband came direct to Canada from the Syrian border town of Daraa, said she feels like Saadeh and Bishawi are now her family.

"I feel like they're my sisters," said Talab.

"They made me feel calm and translated between me and the doctors during labour."



Lucy DeCoutere
THE CANADIAN PRESS

GHOMESHI TRIAL

Actress takes the stand

The only complainant whose name is not covered by a publication ban took the stand Thursday in the sexual assault trial of Jian Ghomeshi.

Trailer Park Boys actor Lucy DeCoutere said that months after Ghomeshi allegedly choked and slapped her, they met at a karaoke event in Banff, where he joined her onstage mid-song to perform a duet of Britney Spears song Hit Me Baby One More Time. She called the song choice "intensely ironic."

Ghomeshi's lawyer, Marie Henein, questioned how well DeCoutere could recall the night because she had apparently added more details while testifying in court that did not emerge in 19 police and media interviews.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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JAPAN

Petition calls for elephant's relocation

In the humble zoo, among the small cages of owls, guinea pigs and raccoons, Japan's oldest elephant stands in a concrete pen about the size of half of a basketball court. She drinks sugar water from a bucket and munches on bananas with her last remaining tooth while a debate is being waged about where she should live out her final years.

A gift from the Thai government in 1949, Hanako, or "flower child," has lived in a zoo since she was 2, and her current 69 years is about the lifespan of captive Asian elephants.

An online petition drive wants her to be moved to a Thai sanctuary, to live in a natural, grassy habitat where elephants romp in herds. "Give her a real life or send her to a sanctuary," the petition says.

Inokashira Park Zoo acknowledges it's not fully equipped to keep an elephant. Hanako will be its last, deputy director and general curator Hidemasa Hori said. But Hori insisted his zoo knew best how to care for her.

Canadian Ulara Nakagawa, whose blog posts inspired the petition drive, says Japan's views on animal welfare at zoos lag behind a global move toward mimicking natural environments at zoos.

"I've always had a powerful connection to elephants," Nakagawa said in a telephone interview. "My Hanako thing is just one small act that I'm trying to do." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Hanako, a 69-year-old elephant EUGENE HOSHIKO/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Assange says he'll leave embassy after UN ruling

WIKILEAKS

WikiLeaks chief risking arrest, but expects to walk free

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange says he will step out of the Ecuadorian embassy in London on Friday after more than three years of self-imposed refuge from British authorities.

The exit is timed to come one hour after a UN panel on arbitrary detention is set to release its findings on his case.

In a statement posted on the

WikiLeaks Twitter account, Assange said he would accept arrest if the UN panel ruled against him, but expected to be allowed to walk free if the ruling was in his favour.

If the UN finds that his confinement to the embassy is lawful, Assange said, "I shall exit the embassy at noon on Friday to accept arrest by British police as there is no meaningful prospect of further appeal.

"However, should I prevail and the state parties be found to have acted unlawfully, I expect the immediate return (of) my passport and the termination of further attempts to arrest me," he wrote.

The Swedish foreign ministry confirmed Thursday that it had seen a copy of the panel's findings and that it had ruled Assange's detention is "arbitrary."

British authorities, however, say their operation to arrest Assange hasn't been altered, and "should he leave the Embassy the (Metropolitan Police Service) will make every effort to arrest him."

Assange was granted asylum by Ecuador and has been living in its embassy in London since June 2012, shortly after he lost his bid to overturn an extradition request from Sweden, where he is wanted for questioning about an alleged sexual assault.



Julian Assange
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

While he has no problem facing those allegations, Assange's lawyer says he suspects that once in Sweden he will be extradited again to the United States, where he is the subject of an espionage

investigation stemming from the thousands of secret government documents published by WikiLeaks.

"International law is quite clear that detention is not voluntary where one's only two choices are confinement or a risk of persecution," wrote Carey Shenkman, a human rights lawyer who represents Assange in the United States.

"In other words, Mr. Assange's stay in the embassy is coerced and cannot be said to be self-imposed... Assange faces a serious risk of onward extradition to the United States, where he faces persecution and inhumane treatment." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



1



2



3

1 A Syrian boy walks in Kawergosk refugee camp in northern Iraq carrying a plate with boiled potatoes. Syrian refugees in Iraq are struggling to feed themselves as cash-strapped aid agencies scale back assistance.

2 Rania, a Syrian refugee, prepares a meal for her family in their tent in Kawergosk refugee camp in northern Iraq.

3 Fauzia Ahmad holds her son inside their tent in Kawergosk refugee camp. Ahmad's family has not received a food donation in several months. PHOTOS: ALICE MARTINS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO

Police find six dead in home

Chicago police on Thursday found the bodies of four men, one woman and a child inside a home on the city's South Side in what they say could be a murder-suicide, even as they added extra patrols in the neighbourhood. The bodies had signs of trauma, but authorities have not determined the cause of death. Authorities were still working to identify the dead, police said it's likely they were family members.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRAQ

Syrian refugee families struggle for food as aid dwindles

Perwin Shamsaddeen Ali, a Syrian refugee living in a tent camp in northern Iraq, has been reduced to cooking one meal a day for her family of four.

"I cook at 11 o'clock and we eat the leftovers in the evening. Why? Because we have no more food, that's why," the 28-year-old mother of two said. "Today I gave the kids some noodles, that's all. That's all we had."

As aid agencies struggle to keep pace with the worst refugee crisis since the Second World War, they have been forced to cut back on assistance, including food rations.

With no end in sight to the Syrian war, and regional host countries increasingly overwhelmed, many refugees see the perilous crossing to Europe as their only option.

Donors will be asked to provide nearly \$9 billion US to aid agencies and host countries in 2016 at an annual conference held Thursday in London — a record request. But donors have come up short in previous years.

A funding shortfall last year forced the World Food Program, the UN agency responsible for feeding the refugees, to cut back. Some refugees no longer

receive any food aid. Monthly cash assistance has been reduced to \$10 per person.

Some refugees say the vouchers the WFP uses to provide aid exacerbates the problem, since it can only be used in the camp's supermarket, where goods are more expensive than outside.

"A kilogram of sugar costs 750 Iraqi dinars (60 cents US) outside the camp. Here, it's 1,500. The same with rice. A chicken costs 3,500 dinars outside, while here it's 5,000," said Khaled Fattah, 42, who lives in the camp with his wife and five children.

The WFP says its Iraq oper-

ation was 61 per cent underfunded last year. In 2015, it gave food assistance to 1.8 million displaced Iraqis across the country, plus 60,000 refugees from neighbouring Syria.

The food shortages have convinced some inside the camp that they would be better off heading to Europe, despite the dangers of crossing the choppy seas in smuggler boats.

"It is better for people to drown in the sea than to live here," said Ali's neighbour, 20-year-old Newroz Ahmat. "At least half of the people will make it." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ GLOBAL PLEDGE

World leaders pledged more than \$10 billion Thursday to fund schools, shelter and jobs for Syrian refugees, money that British Prime Minister David Cameron said "will save lives, will give hope, will give people the chance of a future." Participants at the conference acknowledged that prospects for ending the conflict has rarely been worse. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Super Bowl's big numbers

1
1,300,000,000
chicken wings will
be eaten in the U.S.
alone

2
100,000,000
chicken wings will
be eaten in Canada

3
Endless eyes
Average number of
Canadians who tuned
in for the
2015 Super
Bowl



4
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Watchdog unlocks ads

TELEVISION

Bell challenges regulator's 'arbitrary' decision

A baby expounding on the benefits of online stock trading. A pint-sized Darth Vader using the Force to power his father's sedan. Burt Reynolds being kicked by a bear.

Americans watching the Super Bowl are fed big-budget, celebrity-heavy commercials that have become almost as big a draw as the game itself, and Canadians have been missing out — but not for much longer.

This year could be the last in which Canadians are prevented from watching American commercials during the big game after the CRTC ruled that the U.S. ads were an integral part of the Super Bowl broadcast.

The federal regulator ordered Bell, which owns the

exclusive rights to the NFL championship through 2019, to stop inserting Canadian ads for customers watching the game on an American channel.

That means after the new rule comes into effect in 2017, Canadians who want to watch the U.S. ads during the Super Bowl can simply switch over from CTV to Fox, which has the U.S. broadcast rights next year.

Perry MacDonald, who heads Bell's English-language TV business, said the CRTC's "arbitrary" decision makes no sense given the importance of ad revenues beyond his company's bottom line. Bell is challenging the decision in the Federal Court of Appeal, and the NFL has filed a brief supporting the company's claim.

MacDonald said many of the U.S. ads are available online. He said the CRTC's ruling hurts the ability of Canadian companies to reach their market and harms Bell's ability to promote Canadian shows.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RRSP AND TFSA ACCOUNTS

Tax bracket, goals key to savings choice

Investment advisers say deciding whether to put savings in their RRSP or TFSA accounts depends on what people are saving for and where they fall within tax brackets.

"RRSPs tend to be beneficial in your peak earning years, especially if you believe at retirement your income will come down so that you'll be in a lower tax bracket," says Angela Dzinis of Alterna Savings in Ottawa.

When people put money into an RRSP account they are able to deduct their contributions from their income. When retirees start withdrawing their nest egg, the money is taxed as income. In contrast, when money is put into a TFSA, there's no deduction on an income tax return. But when the money is withdrawn, any investment gains that may have been earned are tax-free.

For those in the lowest tax

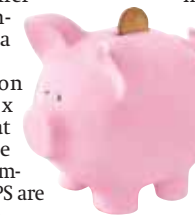
bracket, contributing to an RRSP may offer little advantage over a TFSA.

In addition to the tax bracket, what investors are saving for is important. RRSPs are designed to help save for retirement.

Money can be withdrawn to help buy a home for the first time or pay for education later in life — but they are primarily to help in retirement. But TFSAs can be used for just about anything and when money is withdrawn, there's no tax to pay. They can be used to save for retirement, but also serve as an emergency fund.

Gains on money in a TFSA are tax-free. ISTOCK

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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IN BRIEF

Another air bag problem leads to 5 million recalls

Continental Automotive Systems says moisture can get inside its air bag control computers, causing the power supplies to corrode and fail. This issue will lead to recalls of up to 5 million vehicles worldwide.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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EMMA TEITEL ON A POISONOUS PICKUP ARTIST

Roosh V's misogynistic ideology borrows more from the Middle Ages than Tucker Max; a man who says he won't even speak to female reporters because he doesn't respect their work.



A few years ago, while covering the burgeoning men's rights movement, I attended a lecture at the University of Toronto by Janice Fiamengo, a Canadian academic and self-avowed "anti-feminist" who believes women's studies programs erode free speech.

The event was attended, not surprisingly, by men's rights activists who were spellbound by Fiamengo's gospel of unrepentant political incorrectness. But most noticeably, they seemed spellbound by Fiamengo herself.

Here was a real live woman who didn't ridicule them or write them off as quacks; a real live woman who (to borrow a line from Bridget Jones's Diary) appeared to love them "just as they were."

Yes, it's likely that a lot of these guys were sexist or paranoid; socially awkward, serially jilted, libertarians or disgruntled divorced dads peeved at what they believed was a rigged family court system. But I got the distinct impression that they would happily eject their creepy worldview if a woman actually gave them the time of day. In other words, their loneliness was way more palpable than their anger.

They weren't monsters, they were just jerks.

This is not the impression I get from Roosh V, a.k.a. Daryush Valizadeh, the "neo-masculinist" American pickup artist, whose misogynistic ideology borrows more from

the Middle Ages than Tucker Max; a man who says he won't even speak to female reporters because he doesn't respect their work. (Needless to say, he did not respond to my request for comment.)

Or is he a guy who's likely to believe that professional wrestling is real?

Why this interest in the pickup artist formerly known as Daryush? Because this past week Roosh set off a firestorm

so pointless and idiotic, that taking them as a joke often seems like the only appropriate response."

The answer is no. It may always be cooler to sit back and laugh, but even if Valizadeh is the satirist he claims to be and the entire ROK website is a trolling project of Sacha Baron Cohen proportion, we should be proud and not embarrassed that our leaders reacted so swiftly to condemn what is a poisonous ideology.

Misogyny, the hatred of women, is a word that gets thrown around a lot these days. It's used with a sometimes alarming lack of selectivity to describe a gamut of chauvinist-piggishness: from the music videos of Robin Thicke, to groping on Mad Men, to men sitting wide-legged on the subway. It has replaced sexism as the go-to term for discrimination against women.

Overuse and misuse of the term has muddled its meaning. But Roosh V is the real thing. He and his followers (who, by the way, have compiled a list on their website of female journalists whose work they find offensive, on which I assume I will soon appear), are not just harmless sad sacks, like the Men's Rights activists who came to hear Fiamengo speak at U of T. They're not just lonely and pathetic. These guys are Stone Age and scary. They're misogynists. So is their fearless leader. And they should all be dealt with as such.



STONE AGE AND SCARY The coolest response to the vitriol of Roosh V (Daryush Valizadeh) may be to ignore him, Emma Teitel writes, but the self-styled "neo-masculinist" blogger is worse than the typical troll. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Valizadeh, 36, runs Return of Kings (ROK), a website that churns out editorials advocating the repeal of women's suffrage, increased dating of women with eating disorders, and most notoriously, (in a column from last year called "How to Stop Rape") the legalization of rape, which he argues would prompt women to take greater measures to protect their bodies from unwanted advances. Surprisingly, Roosh says media have mischaracterized him: He is actually the anti-feminist Jonathan Swift, and "How to Stop Rape," is actually "satire."

This last claim is so absurd it seems absurd to go crazy about it. Even if it were true, is the average male visitor to Roosh's website a guy who's likely to be attuned to satire?

of protest when he announced that this weekend he would be hosting an "international meetup" for his followers, in bars and cafes around the world. But widespread and very vocal condemnation of Return of Kings — and "How to Stop Rape" in particular — by activists and politicians, including several Canadian mayors, apparently spooked him. Valizadeh cancelled the event, citing, what else, safety concerns.

The question now is: should everyone have made such a fuss? Were the planned protests and protestations of high dudgeon really necessary? Or should we have concluded, as columnist Charlotte Lyttton did in the U.K.'s the Daily Telegraph this week, that Valizadeh's ideas are "so absurd,

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview



High Hollywood drama, and clichés, on Ghomeshi Day 3

Soap operas have cliffhangers. Apparently, so do sexual-assault trials. Yesterday, the Jian Ghomeshi trial saw testimony from former Trailer Park Boys actor Lucy DeCoutere. It was, as DeCoutere put it, "theatre at its best."

Never more so than when Ghomeshi's lawyer, Marie Henein, drew the entire court to the brink of what she implied would be a major revelation, and then abruptly cut her questioning for the day.

She had pressed DeCoutere, who alleges one count of sexual assault and one of choking, about why she disclosed new emails on Tuesday evening, hours after the trial's first witness saw surprise email evidence in cross-examination.

"I'm going to suggest that after 16 months and 19 interviews in the media, and four press releases, and press releases by your lawyer on the eve of this trial, the very first time that this call gets made is when you know defence might have some of those emails," Henein charged.

DeCoutere said it only became clear Tuesday the information would be "critical."

With gravitas Henein asked one final time: "Do you want to tell his Honour the real conversation that was going on?"

"I'm not sure what you mean," DeCoutere said.

Henein then told the judge she'd like to end here — leav-

ing the gallery agape, and DeCoutere in limbo.

Before facing Henein, DeCoutere commanded her own drama as she described how she "normalized" her relationship with Ghomeshi after she says he choked her and slapped her three times in Toronto in 2003.

It was a feminine cliché that stirred the emotions of women observers, who saw themselves in her: keen to please and to question themselves, afraid to offend.

DeCoutere said she didn't know how to react because she'd "never had an adult hit me before." She decided to stay at Ghomeshi's so that "whatever it was that inspired him to hit me would fade out." She kissed Ghomeshi on the couch, and then spent the weekend seeing him socially. She even sent flowers when she got home to Halifax.

Calling her own behaviour "outrageous" and "ludicrous," she said it was nonetheless authentic. She wanted to get over what happened; she wanted to "kill it," even after, at the Gemini awards, Ghomeshi allegedly cupped his hand around her throat "to remind me he choked me."

Any woman could sympathize with this desire to placate, this urge to self-blame. And it will carry its own power, despite Henein's dramatic twist. Today, we'll find out if that cliffhanger was earned.

Misogyny, the hatred of women, is a word that gets used with an alarming lack of selectivity to describe a gamut of chauvinist-piggishness.

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George Clooney stars in the latest offering from the Coen Brothers — *Hail, Caesar!* — which opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

O Brothers, we love thou

ANALYSIS

The cream of the canon of Ethan and Joel

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



The Coen Brothers have spent most of their careers as critical darlings, favourites of people like me who love the offbeat sensibility they bring to their films.

Their classic work, which includes *O Brother Where Art Thou*, *Barton Fink* and of course, the Oscar-winning *Fargo*, dates back to the early '80s with their

brehtaking debut *Blood Simple*.

The Coens made their name mixing off-the-wall comedy with crime stories. Raising *Arizona* redefined quirky and *The Big Lebowski* is a cult classic.

The sibling directors set their new film *Hail, Caesar!* in a fictional movie studio called Capitol Pictures but populated the story with characters ripped from Hollywood history.

Josh Brolin plays Eddie Mannix, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's legendary producer and "fixer." During Tinseltown's Golden Age, Mannix solved star's problems, allegedly using his influence to keep some of the most notorious crimes and scandals on the LAPD blotter under wraps.

The Coens don't hit a home

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Hail, Caesar!	★★★
Pride and Prejudice and Zombies	★★★
The Choice	★
The Lady in The Van	★★★
Mo'Nave	★★★

HOW RATING WORKS	
★★★★	SEE IT
★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★	UP TO YOU
★	SKIP IT

run every time — their romantic comedy *Intolerable Cruelty* lacked both romance and comedy and *The Ladykillers* was an ill-advised remake of an Ealing Studios classic — but their genre-jumping resume contains many marvellous films that are as varied as they are entertaining.

Here are three of their movies that translate easily from the arthouse to your house.

No Country for Old Men

The Coens faithfully adapted Cormac McCarthy's novel, keeping the dark humour, unbearable suspense and high body count, while at the same time tightening up their notoriously loose narrative style.

This is muscular filmmaking, highly structured but not predictable; it's well paced and suspenseful. It's one of their best films.

A Serious Man

Though billed as a comedy, this may be the bleakest film from the Coen Brothers — and these are the same guys who stuffed someone into a wood chipper in *Fargo*.

The story of a man who thought he did everything right, only to be jabbed in the eye by the fickle finger of fate is a tragic comedy that shows how ruthless real life can be.

Set in 1967 Minnesota *A Serious Man* is apparently a thinly veiled look at the early life of the Coens, and if this is true, they deserve the designation of tortured artists.

This film is darkly brilliant and funny, but a celebration of life it ain't.

Inside Llewyn Davis

This one is a fictional look at the vibrant '60s Greenwich Village folk scene. Imagine the cover of *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan* come to life and you'll get the idea.

More a character study than a traditional narrative, Oscar-nominated *Inside Llewyn Davis* lives up to its name by painting a vivid portrait of its main character, played by *Star Wars* star Oscar Isaac.

It gives us an under-the-covers look at the struggles and naked ambition it takes to get noticed.

Once you get inside Llewyn's head you probably won't want to hang out with the guy in real life, but you won't regret spending two cinematic hours with him.

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5 HAIL, CAESAR! SPOT THE MOVIE REFERENCES

Joel and Ethan Coen aren't afraid to pay direct homage — O Brother, Where Art Thou? merrily riffed on Homer's The Odyssey and The Big Lebowski is a stoner's take on Raymond Chandler's crime fiction. Their new Old Hollywood satire Hail, Caesar! is chock-full of cinematic allusions, many of them obvious MGM classics but others merely implied. Let's play spot the influence with the Coens **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

1 Ben-Hur (1959)

This MGM sword-and-sandals epic, starring Charlton Heston as a Jewish prince betrayed and enslaved by a Roman friend, is the biggest influence of all on Hail, Caesar!, the in-production movie within the movie. It gives the Coens film its ancient Rome set pieces and its celebrity kidnapping main narrative, with George Clooney playing duped doofus superstar Baird Whitlock. • **Bonus references:** Quo Vadis, The Robe



2 Anchors Aweigh (1945)

Channing Tatum plays a dancing sailor in Hail, Caesar!, a pretty straight tribute to song-and-dance icon Gene Kelly, who enjoyed playing a navy man. The shore-leave segment in the Swingin' Dinghy bar, where Tatum's Burt Gurney busts bromantic moves with his mates while singing No Dames!, hat-tips this MGM musical rom-com that teamed Kelly with Frank Sinatra. • **Bonus reference:** On the Town

3 Tumbling Tumbleweeds (1935)

Rising star Alden Ehrenreich plays singing cowboy Hobie Doyle in Hail, Caesar! much like Gene Autry, the crooning cowpoke who could shoot his six-gun as easily as serenade his sweetheart. Any of Autry's films might have inspired the Coens, but the most likely is Tumbling Tumbleweeds, which has a title tune by the Sons of the Pioneers that the brothers used in The Big Lebowski. • **Bonus references:** Roy Rogers, Tex Ritter



4 Million Dollar Mermaid (1952)

Scarlett Johansson's finned diva DeeAnna Moran plays broad tribute to Esther Williams, the real million-dollar mermaid from synchronized swimming extravaganzas choreographed by Busby Berkeley. In this MGM musical biopic, Williams played Australian swim star Annette Kellerman, notorious for being the first major actress to appear nude in a Hollywood film (A Daughter of the Gods). • **Bonus references:** Jupiter's Darling, Dangerous When Wet



5 Ice Station Zebra (1968)

This connection may be a little out-there, even for the Coen Bros., because this Rock Hudson MGM submarine thriller came out nearly a decade after Hollywood's Golden Age ended. But like Hail, Caesar! it has subs, spies and Soviets, and it's based on a real 1959 incident. The Cold War setting is also central to Bridge of Spies, the Oscar-nominated Steven Spielberg movie that the Coens co-wrote. • **Bonus reference:** The Enemy Below



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Benjamin Walker and Teresa Palmer star in a film adaptation of the Nicholas Sparks' love story, *The Choice*. CONTRIBUTED

Nicholas still makes Sparks fly

THE CHOICE

Novelist was inspired by a heart OK with being single

Steve Gow
For Metro

Nicholas Sparks has quite literally mastered the art of the love story.

Not only have the American romance novelist's books sold over 100 million copies globally, but 11 of them have been turned into successful Hollywood hits — including the classic drama *The Notebook* and last year's *The Longest Ride*. With the release of his latest passion project *The Choice* now hitting theatres, we quizzed the wordsmith on his command of the courtship.

The obstacles of romance

Having penned nearly 20 hit novels, Sparks insists the key to a good love story lies in laying down a few roadblocks. In *The Choice*, veterinarian Travis is convinced a serious affair with neighbor Gabby would only cramp his bachelor lifestyle.

"Conflict is key to any story," insists Sparks. "Something's

got to hold the characters apart so that they can overcome that. That's part and parcel with any love story. I certainly didn't (create) this — Shakespeare did it, the Greeks did it."

Write what you know

The author insists that his ideas start close to home; that his "inspiration always starts very small." In the case of *The Choice*, Travis is even loosely based on Sparks's own brother.

"My brother was a great bachelor for many years," admits Sparks. "It's just someone very comfortable being single and comfortable doing what he likes to do (and I thought) what kind of person would it take to win a heart like that."

The gift of trust

When Nicholas Sparks hands over one of his hit novels to a Hollywood screenwriter, he's happy to relinquish some creative control. But the author does lay some ground rules.

"They're very simple — retain the spirit and the intent of the characters. For instance, let's not make a character a pot-smoking alcoholic just because you think it would be more interesting," said Sparks. "I understand that they're very different mediums — a novel is a story told with words and a film is a story told with pictures — so I don't worry about small changes."

TRUE STORY

Fahmy memoir to be turned into film

The publisher of Mohamed Fahmy's upcoming memoir says a British company will develop the book as a feature film.

Penguin Random House Canada says Fahmy's memoir *The Marriott Cell* will tell the story of how he and two colleagues of Al Jazeera English were imprisoned in Egypt, and their battle for freedom.

The book is described as a political thriller that cov-

ers the arrest, trial and incarceration of bureau chief Fahmy, Australian correspondent Peter Grete and Egyptian producer Baher Mohamed in 2013.

Fahmy and Baher Mohamed were pardoned last September. Grete had previously been deported.

Fahmy's memoir is to be published in October and the publisher says The Development Partnership will turn

it into a film.

"A feature is going to allow us to relive and dramatically portray what no news reel grasped; one's inner voice caught in an emotional struggle between lawlessness, failed corporate decisions, and bureaucratic red tape that left us in a vicious Kafkaesque black hole fighting for our lives and that bigger cause of press freedom," said Fahmy in a statement. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Mohamed Fahmy
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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A primer on Navajo Nation vs. Urban Outfitters

LAWSUIT

What you need to know about the suit, likely worth millions

The Navajo Nation is seeking potentially millions of dollars from Urban Outfitters Inc. over clothing, jewelry and other merchandise bearing the

tribe's name that the retailer has sold.

The clothing chain asked a federal judge in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on Wednesday to limit how far back in time the tribe can go to seek money over the company's products, which included everything from necklaces, jackets and pants to a flask and underwear with the "Navajo" name.

The judge did not issue an immediate ruling.

The tribe's lawsuit alleging trademark violations has been working its way through the courts for more than three years.

Efforts to settle the case featuring two unlikely foes have failed as the tribe seeks vast sums of money from the company that also owns the Anthropologie and Free People brands.

Here are things to know about the case:

What is the Navajo Nation seeking?

The Navajo Nation wants revenue from products sold by Urban Outfitters and its subsidiaries under the "Navajo" name dating back to 2008. The actual amount isn't quantified in court documents, but it could amount to millions of dollars.

On some claims, the tribe wants all the profits generated from the Navajo-themed sales.

On others, it wants \$1,000 per day per item, or three times the profit generated by marketing and retail of products using the name.

Urban Outfitters says the tribe deserves nothing from 2008 to when the lawsuit was filed, arguing that the company has been burdened by the tribe's unreasonable delay in asserting its alleged rights.

a flask and panties, among other merchandise. The companies said they quit selling the products after hearing of the tribe's lawsuit.

The Navajo Nation holds trademarks on the "Navajo" name for things like clothing, footwear and online retail sales.

Navajo policing of trademarks

The lawsuit against Urban Outfitters is the first such action taken by the tribe in U.S. federal court to assert its trademarks. Former Navajo Nation Attorney General Harrison Tsosie has said the tribe twice protested the unauthorized use of "Navajo" before it sued and sent at least four dozen protest letters afterward.

The tribe relies on its members and an agreement with a Texas-based company that licenses the "Navajo" name to monitor use of the term and alert the tribal government to possible trademark infringement.

What is the basis of the lawsuit?

The tribe's 2012 lawsuit alleges violations of federal and state trademark laws, including the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, which makes it illegal to sell arts or crafts in a way to falsely suggest they're made by American Indians.

Urban Outfitters says "Navajo" is a generic term for a style or design. The company wants a judge to determine it hasn't infringed upon the tribe's rights and to cancel the tribe's federal trademark registrations.

What is the merchandise in question?

The geometric prints popular in clothing often are inspired by Native American designs. Urban Outfitters said it started using the "Navajo" or "Navaho" name on its products and in marketing as early as July 2001, when the fashion trend was in full swing.

Its subsidiaries followed suit, with the companies selling cuffs, necklaces, jackets, pants,

What is the Navajo Nation?

The Navajo Nation refers both to the tribal government and to the nearly 70,000 square kilometres that make up the tribe's reservation in Arizona, Utah and New Mexico — the country's largest. About 180,000 of the 300,000 Navajo tribal members live on the reservation. The tribe's population is second only to the Cherokee Nation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEREMY HOTZ INTERNATIONAL MAN OF MISERY



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Items purchased from Urban Outfitters' Navajo line are shown in a 2011 file photo. MATT YORK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hosting a horde of fans for the Super Bowl? Or are you crashing somebody's party and bringing something delicious? You could spend a lot of time thinking about what to prepare, or you could just make saucy beer sliders and a decadent creamy dip for the win. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Super Bowl snacks that stack up

IN THE SKILLET

A little beer adds a whole lot of flavour to mini burgers



Big provisions are required to watch the big game, and nothing's more substantial than a burger, even in its mini form — the slider.

Indeed, if you plan to serve a variety of dishes for the Super Bowl, sliders are more sensible than the full-sized guys. But they happen to be a little trickier to cook than a standard-issue burger. The slider's size makes it tough to put a nice crust on the outside while ensuring that it doesn't overcook on the inside.

First, the sliders need to be about 3/4 inch thick, not only so they don't overcook, but so you can fit all of them at one time into the skillet.

Second, the skillet needs to be large, a 12-incher. If you don't have a skillet that big, use two smaller ones and cook six sliders in each.

And third, whichever skillet you use, the oil must be heated until it's almost smoking. At the start, you want the burgers to sear, not steam, which is what will happen if the pan isn't

hot enough.

At first, the sliders will be crowded together in the skillet, but they'll shrink down as they cook, giving off fat and juices in the process. You deglaze the pan with beer, of course, which mingles intimately with the fat and juices released by the burgers to create a delectable pan sauce.

You can spoon some of this liquid onto the buns before sliding in the burgers, or a more extravagant technique: pour the sauce into ramekins and invite your guests to dunk their sliders into it between bites.

Whatever happens onscreen, you'll be winning at home.

Beer-Steamed Cheese and Mushroom Beef Sliders

Start to finish: 50 minutes
Makes 12 sliders

Ingredients

- 3 Tbsp vegetable oil, divided
- 1/2 cup finely chopped yellow onion
- 3 ounces mushrooms (white, cremini or shiitake), finely chopped
- Kosher salt
- 2 Tbsp finely chopped pitted green olives
- 2 Tbsp finely chopped, drained, canned green chilies
- 3 ounces sliced sharp cheddar cheese, broken into 12 equal pieces
- 1 1/2 pounds ground beef,



Beer steamed cheese and mushroom beef sliders.

MATTHEW MEAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

- shaped into 12 sliders, each about 3/4 inch thick
- Ground black pepper
- 1/3 cup beer
- 12 slider buns

Directions

1. In a large (at least 12-inch) skillet over medium, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil. Add the onion and cook until golden, about 8 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the onion to a bowl. Add another tablespoon of the oil to the pan, the mushrooms and a hefty pinch of salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the liquid the mushrooms give off has evaporated,

about 5 minutes. Transfer the mushrooms to the bowl with the onion. Reserve the skillet. **2.** Add the olives and chilies to the mushroom mixture and stir well. Set aside.

3. Return the skillet to high heat. Add the remaining tablespoon of oil and wait until it is almost smoking. Meanwhile, season the sliders on one side with salt and pepper. When the oil is hot, add the sliders, seasoned side down (it will be a little crowded in the pan), and cook them until they are just browned on the first side, about 2 minutes. Sprinkle the top side of each with salt

A CROWD-PLEASING DIP

Hot-and-Creamy Pesto Spinach Dip

Start to finish: 30 minutes
(10 minutes active)
Servings: 8

Ingredients

- 2 teaspoons olive or vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon finely minced garlic
- 9-ounce package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed to remove excess liquid
- 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 3/4 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 cup milk or cream
- 1/4 cup minced fresh basil
- Kosher salt and ground

Directions

1. Heat the oven to 350 F. Coat a shallow, 4-cup baking

dish or 9-inch pie pan with cooking spray.

2. In a medium skillet over medium, heat the oil. Add the garlic, stir for 30 seconds, then add the spinach and cook, stirring frequently, until the spinach is cooked and no liquid remains in the pan, about 4 minutes. Remove from the heat and cool.

3. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, combine the cream cheese, Monterey Jack, Parmesan, milk, basil and a hefty pinch each of salt and pepper. Use an electric mixer to beat until well combined, then add the spinach mixture and mix again until fully incorporated.

4. Transfer the mixture to the prepared pan, smoothing the top, then bake for 20 minutes, or until hot and bubbling.

5. Serve hot with bread or crackers. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

and pepper, turn the sliders over and cook for another 2 minutes.

4. While the sliders are browning, top each slider with a heaping teaspoon of the mushroom mixture, dividing all of the mixture among the sliders, then place a piece of cheese on top of each. Quickly pour the beer into the pan, all around

the sliders, cover the pan and steam for 2 minutes.

5. Turn off the heat and let the sliders sit in the pan for another minute to let the cheese melt completely. Spoon some of the liquid in the skillet onto the tops and bottoms of the buns, transfer the sliders to the buns and serve right away.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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BRADFORD, PA.

Resort lodge balances class and comfort

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada



Pittsburgh native Sally Ann Bensur summed it up,

"If you want to wear your snow boots to an elegant dinner then the Glendorn is for you."

Chatting over a beer at the resort's traditional Saturday night Skipper Lake bonfire, this unabashed fan of The Lodge at Glendorn was keen to let me know that this is a special spot.

A three-and-a-half hour drive from Toronto, this year-round 1,600 acre resort in Bradford, Pa., has been the epitome of rustic luxury since it opened its doors to the public in 1995.

Set in a valley below the Allegheny Plateau, the property was originally purchased in the early 1900s by wealthy oil magnate C.G. Dorn and his son Forest as a hunting and fishing camp. The original family dwelling, known as the Big House, offers four guest room suites, a cocktail lounge and a grand dining room anchored by a massive stone fireplace.

Throughout the century there were 12 stand alone cabins built to accommodate the growing Dorn family. Today they are part of the guests' accommodations.

As I walked in to John's Cabin it became apparent that these charming cabins were real vacation homes; each one a time capsule of 20th century Americana, capturing decades



The Lodge at Glendorn is the perfect combination of cozy and kitschy, and grand. MAIN PHOTO COURTESY THE LODGE AT GLENDORN; STATUE PHOTO LOREN CHRISTIE/FOR METRO

of Dorn family history.

John's kitchen looks as if it was lifted off the set of Mad Men's first season — complete with a 1950s oven, a plaid patterned Formica countertop and a bevy of bar tools and swizzle sticks worthy of Don Draper.

The bathrooms are pure 1970s with vanities, tubs and toilets in shades of pale green, mustard yellow and aquamarine, all in pristine condition.

The shelves and walls are



Whimsical art can be found throughout the property.



The shelves and walls are full of art, books and board games from the 1980s. Remember Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz?

full of art, books and board games from the 1980s. Remember Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz?

As part of the Relais & Chateaux collection the resort focuses heavily on the culinary experience.

Guests are invited to enjoy a cocktail in the lounge prior to being seated for dinner.

Although menus are set, Executive Chef Joe Schafer changes the choices every day. The meals I had were incredible; melt in your mouth beef

and a peanut butter and jelly inspired dessert with blackberry mousse and candied peanuts were favourites.

Activities include snowmobiling, cross country skiing and curling. Other seasons bring other outdoor options including biking, hiking and fly-fishing.

Sally Ann came last Spring for a fish camp and returned again this past New Year's Eve.

She figured this visit was her twelfth. I have some catching up to do.

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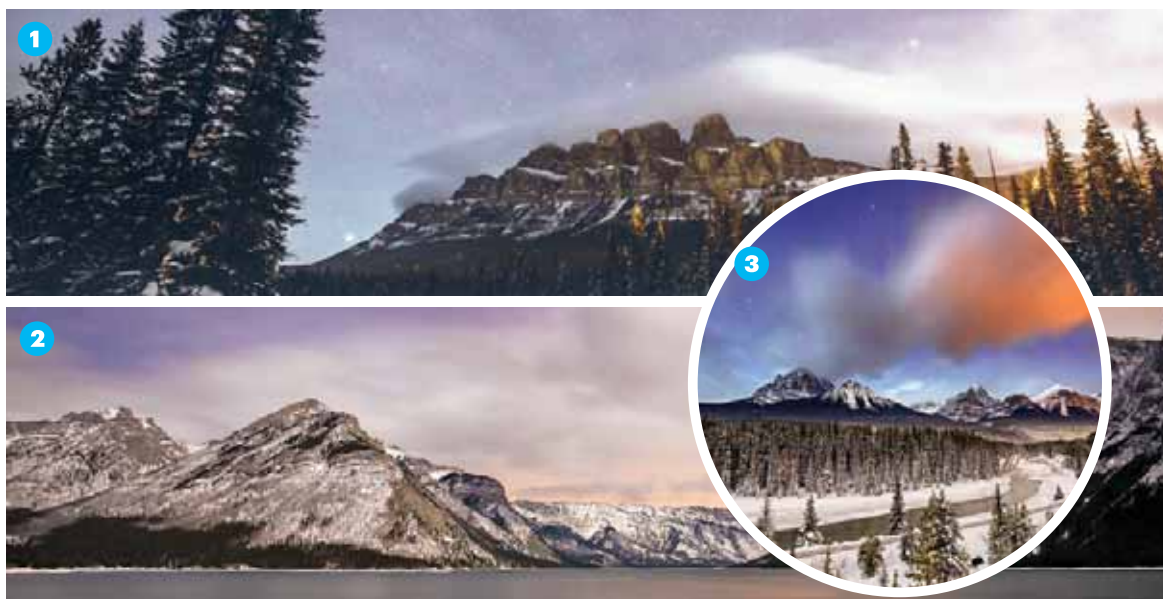
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The best stargazing spots in Banff

Is there a better place in the world to see the stars than Canada's first national park, in Alberta? Far from the light pollution of major cities, Banff National Park is a stargazer's paradise. There are few things more powerful than the peace of the Canadian Rockies with a plethora of starlight overhead. In the wintertime, visitors might even catch sight of the northern lights.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; ALL PHOTOS BRANDON VAN SON

1 Castle Mountain — One of the most iconic mountains in Banff National Park is Castle Mountain. You'll find its imposing peaks down the highway between Banff and Lake Louise. Here, views of the stars and milky way will greet stargazers on a clear night.

2 Lake Minnewanka — Lake Minnewanka, which is Nakoda for the "Lake of the Water Spirits," is the largest lake in Banff National Park and a beautiful place to be night or day. The lake also seems to be more protected from the clouds by the mountains than other locations.

3 Morant's Curve — This is one of the most famous views of Banff National Park. It was here CP Rail had

photographs taken for its tourist brochures. With views of some of the most impressive mountain peaks in Alberta, and the Bow River flowing alongside the rail tracks, this is a great place to stargaze or to spot trains.

4 The Vermilion Lakes — Travellers don't have to wander far from Banff to see the stars. Just a 30-40 minute walk or a short drive west lie the Vermilion Lakes. These hot spring-fed lakes are encircled by hiking trails.

5 Lake Louise — Since the area is completely open to the public, everyone can enjoy the view. One of the best times for stargazing at Lake Louise is in the winter, when the lake is frozen over and the night skies are at their darkest.



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SPORTS

Coldplay lead singer Chris Martin says the band will try to honour Super Bowl halftime shows of the past, present and future on Sunday

Herd get 'crucial' win in clash of Moynihan Bros.

QMJHL

Younger sibling comes out on top in family reunion on ice



Kristen Lipscombe
Metro | Halifax

For the first time ever, the Moynihan brothers faced off against each other.

But while 20-year-old Danny finished with more points, scoring a goal and adding an assist for his new squad the Shawinigan Cataractes, it was 18-year-old Connor whose Halifax Mooseheads skated away with the win on Thursday night.

Connor, who notched a goal himself, and his Herd thrilled the 6,356 fans inside the Scotiabank Centre who watched their 17th-place boys in green and red defeat the second-place Cataractes with a 6-3 final score.

"It was fun, for sure," Danny said after the game of taking to the ice against his younger brother and former teammates.

"It was my first time playing against him in my hockey career," the six-foot, 196-pound centreman said.

"That was a unique experience, but when the puck drops, you've got to just play your

+ GAME NOTES

Halifax defenceman Cooper Jones and forward Kelly Bent were both healthy scratches Thursday night ... Mooseheads forward Anthony Sorrentino earned first-star honours with two goals. Second star was Shawinigan Cataractes forward Danny Moynihan, who had a goal and an assist, and third star was Herd goalie Eric Brassard, who made 46 saves.

game."

The Mooseheads dealt Danny, in addition to a 2016 third-round draft pick, to the Cataractes in exchange for Halifax native Zach Taylor and a first-round selection this year, during the mid-season QMJHL trade period.

Danny had been a member of the Herd for two-and-a-half seasons, the same as the younger Moynihan. The brothers are from Windham, N.H.

"Here and there, there (were) a couple jokes, but yeah, it was fun," Connor said of beating his older bro.

"We haven't seen each other in about a month, so it's pretty special seeing each other again," the six-foot-four, 214-pound right-winger said.

Connor called Thursday



Mooseheads goaltender Eric Brassard sprawls to stop a shot from Shawinigan forward Anthony Beauvillier during Thursday night's game at the Scotiabank Centre. JEFF HARPER/METRO

night's big win and the accompanying two points, "crucial" for the Mooseheads, who are 17-29-5-1 on the regular season.

"Especially against those guys; they have a lot more skill than us," Connor said. "We just worked a lot harder; great outcome."

The Mooseheads started the night off strong, with Vincent Watt, Connor and Anthony Sorrentino making it 3-0 in the first 20 minutes, sending the Halifax

crowd into happy hysterics not often seen this season.

Forward Gabriel Gagne cracked the scoreboard for Shawinigan early in the second, with Anthony Beauvillier and Danny Moynihan adding goals of their own before the period was done. Sorrentino scored his second of the night to keep the Herd ahead 5-3 after 40 minutes.

Two empty-net goals late in the third from Finnish forward Otto Somppi, along with an

outstanding 46 saves from Eric Brassard, sealed the deal for the Mooseheads. For former Halifax captain Cavan Fitzgerald, 19, who was also recently traded to Shawinigan in exchange for Jocktan Chainey and a 2016 third-round draft pick, it was a bit nerve-wracking to wear the Cataractes jersey in the ol' Mooseheads barn.

"It was a lot of mixed emotions coming back in this building," he said.

IN BRIEF

Hurricanes get reinforcement in Cobb

There will be a new face in the Halifax Hurricanes lineup this weekend.

The local National Basketball League of Canada club announced late Wednesday night it has signed guard JerShon Cobb to replace the injured Joseph Bertrand.

The six-foot-five Cobb joined the Hurricanes for practice Thursday and will suit up for Friday's home game against the Charlottetown-based Island Storm.

Tip-off is at 7 p.m. at the Scotiabank Centre.

Cobb played NCAA ball with Northwestern University and most recently he had a stint with the Canton Charge of the NBA D-League.

The Hurricanes currently lead the Atlantic Division with a 9-4 record on the regular season. METRO

Lowry enters shootout

Toronto Raptors point guard Kyle Lowry will participate in the three-point contest at the NBA all-star game, the league announced on Thursday.

All-star weekend will be in Toronto Feb. 12-14, with the skills challenge — including the three-point contest — being held on Feb. 13.

Lowry becomes the third player in team history to compete in the event, joining Walt Williams (1997) and Jason Kapono (2008 & 2009). THE CANADIAN PRESS



Connor McDavid has a goal and four assists in two games since returning from injury. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Oilers on roll with McDavid back in fold

Jordan Eberle scored twice and added an assist as the Edmonton Oilers started their four-game road trip with a 7-2 beating of the Ottawa Senators on Thursday night.

Mark Fayne, Zack Kassian, Andrej Sekera, Leon Draisaitl and Brandon Davidson also scored for the Oilers (21-26-5). Rookie sensation Connor McDavid, playing just his second game since returning from a broken clavicle, had two assists on the night.

Cam Talbot made 26 saves for the win.

THURSDAY In Ottawa



It was much of the same for struggling Ottawa (23-23-6), which has now lost three straight and seven of its last 10. Craig Anderson allowed three goals on 10 shots before Andrew Hammond came in and allowed four goals on 18 shots.

Mike Hoffman and Mark

Stone were the lone Senators to beat Talbot.

Ottawa gave up three early goals in the first and never recovered from its dreadful start.

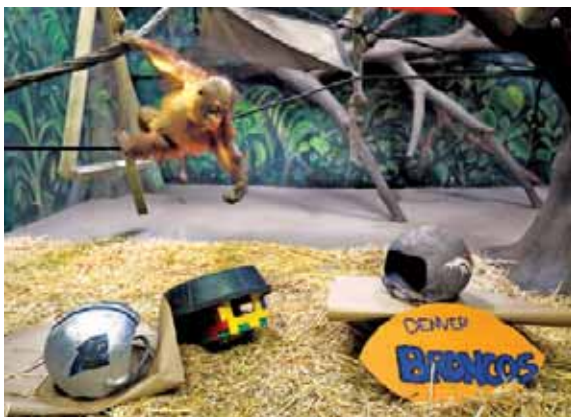
Fayne opened the scoring at the four-minute mark beating Anderson from just inside the blue line on a deflection off of Ottawa's Max McCormick.

Just 41 seconds later Eberle made it 2-0 as he used McDavid as a decoy on a 2-on-1 to beat Anderson. McDavid then got in on the action making a great pass to Eberle on the power play to make it 3-0. THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ IN TORONTO

P.A. Parenteau's shootout goal lifted the Maple Leafs to a 3-2 win over the New Jersey Devils Thursday night, giving coach Mike Babcock a reason to celebrate his 1,000th game.

James Reimer stopped Reid Boucher, Jacob Josefson and Lee Stempniak in the shootout. Peter Holland and Tyler Bozak missed for the Leafs.



APE GOES BANANAS FOR PANTHERS

An ape at the Salt Lake City zoo has predicted the Carolina Panthers will win the Super Bowl. The one-year-old orangutan named Tuah chewed up a cardboard Panthers sign and later kissed a papier-mache Panthers helmet. Tuah's dad picked seven straight winners before dying in 2015.

RAVELL CALL/THE DESERET NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bronco prepares to play with heavy heart

At first, Antonio Smith thought about running out of the team hotel and catching the first flight home after his mother awakened him with news of his father's death following heart surgery.

"But I know I got a greater purpose and a greater responsibility here on this stage," Smith said Thursday, a day after that phone call shattered the joy of Super Bowl week for him.

Denver's defensive end will play Sunday when the Broncos take on the Carolina Panthers. It's not so much to honour Marty

Christopher Williams, 58, but to salute the way his father lived his life even after being sentenced to life in prison.

Williams had been incarcerated in Oklahoma since 1991 for a murder his family contends he didn't commit.

"I would definitely say he was one of my biggest fans and he would have loved for me to play as best as I could for the

glory of the Lord in the same way he lived his life," Smith said. "So, I would say more of that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guys love him and this is just something else to add motivation for this team.

Chris Harris Jr. on teammate Antonio Smith

Cam, Peyton clash on grandest stage

SUPER BOWL

Carolina stands in way of Manning's perfect ending

It's the perfect scenario, a Hollywood-type script: Peyton Manning emulates John Elway and rides off into the sunset with the Lombardi Trophy in his grip.

Will it really happen?

For Manning to take the Denver Broncos to their first NFL title since the team's current general manager, Elway, did in 1999 before retiring,

seems the sentimental choice across the nation.

Like Elway, Manning has had a taste of losing in the big game, going 1-2, including a lopsided loss to Seattle two years ago. Elway dropped his first three Super Bowls, then won his final two.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity," the 39-year-old Manning said. "I keep probably repeating myself but I'm honoured to be a part of it, and the other three that I played in, I was honoured to be a part of those as well."

Should this be Manning's final game, he will leave as the most accomplished regular-season quarterback, owning five league MVP awards. He's had a difficult past few seasons, sidelined for 2011 entirely because of neck surgeries, then struggling in last year's playoffs and missing six games in

PREDICTION

The Associated Press predicts the Panthers will win 27-20, leaving Manning to ponder if he wants to leave football after losing his final game.

2015 with a foot injury.

But he also earned that fifth MVP in 2013 before falling to Seattle.

Standing in the Broncos' way, though, is simply the best team in football.

This is the third straight season the top seeds have won conference titles. The Panthers are 17-1, have the league's most prolific offence behind All-Pro quarterback Cam Newton, and a big-play defence. That D might not match the stats of the Broncos

(14-4), who ranked first overall, but it's just as impactful.

"I sound like a broken record, but yet for a dream to play out as it has through the ups and downs, it just means the world for us to get what you prepare for," says Newton, finishing off his fifth and, by far, best pro season.

"For us, the ultimate goal for this sport is to win a Super Bowl. You win national championships in college and ... you try to get drafted to a team that's going to put you in the right position to win a Super Bowl."

That's where the Panthers have arrived. Carolina is a 5-1/2-point favourite to become only the third team to go 18-1 and win the Super Bowl.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cam Newton
GETTY IMAGES

Peyton Manning
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Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



This sandwich is so simple it almost makes us feel bad calling it a recipe. But then we remember just how good it is when the yolk oozes into the creamy, sweet avocado mixture and all those feeling wash away. Boy were we silly.

Ready in

Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 15 minutes

Serves 2

Ingredients

- 1/2 avocado
- 5 basil leaves, torn into pieces
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- Butter for pan
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 shaved Monterey jack cheese
- Salt and pepper
- 4 slices of bread

Directions

1. In a small bowl, mix avocado until smooth. Stir in the lemon juice and pieces of basil.
2. Toast four slices of bread. Spread two slices with avocado mixture. Set aside.
3. Meanwhile, over medium heat, warm a skillet. Add 1 to 2 tsp of butter and allow to melt. Crack the eggs into the pan and leave until whites are nearly cooked then, so the yolks don't break, very gently flip eggs. Allow to cook a few more seconds, and then remove the eggs from the pan.
4. Place an egg on the two slices of bread without avocado spread. Sprinkle the warm egg with cheese as well as salt and pepper. Top the egg side of the sandwich with the slice of bread that has the avocado spread. Cut and serve.

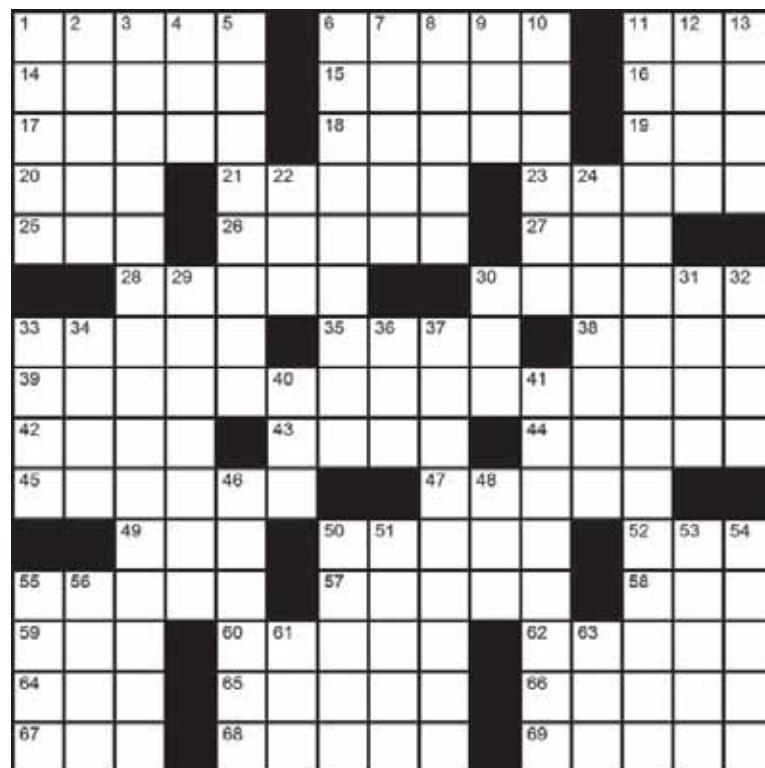
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Rap legend Mr. Shukur
6. Rachel of "The Constant Gardener" (2005)
11. Devitalize
14. Lyre-playing Muse
15. Discreet city passageway
16. Fully
17. _ video
18. Puz' like this
19. Spiritual 'way'
20. So far
21. Mary-Kate _
23. Legendary movie critic Roger
25. Celebrated cathedral city
26. _ _ table (Puts out forks, etc.)
27. _ _ de-sac
28. _ beam
30. Wheeled
33. Field
35. Some PCs
38. Celeb's ride
39. What the show "Monsters Inside Me" on Animal Planet is all about: 2 wds.
42. Frankie Avalon's " _ Dinah"
43. "Take _ _ song..." - The Beatles
44. Nirvana album, with In
45. Prepares vegetables this way
47. Let's Talk Leftovers: "...as for the _ _ shall keep that for sandwiches tomorrow"
49. Cellular stuff
50. _ Lake Accord
52. Naviga-



- tor's need
55. Not neat
57. Also: French
58. Pub pintful
59. " _ la la!"
60. Pressure units
62. Montreal-style _
64. Cuckoo bird type

65. Consonant separators, frequently
66. Watchful
67. Cooking amt.
68. Fathom
69. Corrodes

DOWN

1. "Fiddler on the

- Roof" (1971) role
2. An archangel
3. Canadian Politics: In 2017, it'll be up for grabs for the Conservatives: 2 wds.
4. _ _ crossroads
5. Stupendous
6. Hair remov-

- ers: 2 wds.
7. British actor Cary
8. Actress/singer Ms. Massey (b.1910 - d.1974)
9. Sun. delivery
10. Louisiana music style
11. In weather reports,

- they show things like storm systems swirling above the Earth: 2 wds.
12. Wing-like
13. Conspiracy
22. Jeans brand
24. Steve McQueen movie of 1968 with a big car chase scene
29. Inhabitants of South America's famous mountain chain
30. Pretoria's land [acronym]
31. Urgent situation, briefly
32. "I can only _ _ much." (I need assistance)
33. Tots up
34. Jackie Wilson's " _ Petite"
36. Cote cry!
37. Iconic character of classic Canadian TV: 2 wds.
40. ' _ _ in Yukon
41. Seaweed-wrapped appetizer establishment: 2 wds.
46. Washer and dryer company
48. Diana Krall's hubby's initials-sharers
50. Ms. Menounos of showbiz news
51. Across-the-Pond moneys
53. Watchful
54. Hides
55. Castle's protection
56. Geological periods
61. Over, poetically
63. House siding material, for short

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
What you wish for is what you'll get. Believe something good will happen and it most likely will, but if you believe something bad will happen then that's what will occur.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
The sooner you stop blaming others the sooner you'll be able to take control of your fate. Whatever your problems are you still have room to maneuver. Your main task now is to take responsibility for who you are.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Your reluctance to hurt other people's feelings is holding you back. It's good that you consider others but you need to put your own needs and desires first.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You're on the verge of something big, something that could bring fame and fortune. Others want to be close to you so some of the glory rubs off on them. There's plenty to go round.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
The closer you get to Monday's new moon the more partnerships and relationships will come into play. Today and over the weekend be on the lookout for people whose big personalities mirror your own.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Even the most livewire of Virgos may start to feel jaded today and the reason is that you are doing too much. It is time to slow down. Don't do more, do less — but do it 10 times better.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You feel good about yourself at the moment and you should be using that feeling to create something substantial. You'll get the chance to do some remarkable things this week.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The people you feel closest to emotionally are feeling neglected. Spend time with them. Besides, the phase you have just been through was immensely busy and you deserve some down time.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What happens in the run-up to the new moon on the 8th will make you realize how lucky you are to have certain people as friends. Be more sociable and adventurous than usual!

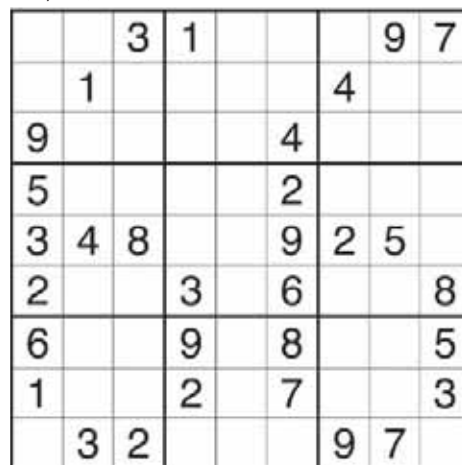
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Cosmic activity in the area of your chart that governs what you own and what you earn will bring money matters into sharper focus and you will become aware that certain people have been taking advantage of you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
There will rarely be a better time to start in a new direction. Be encouraged to leave old ways behind and explore uncharted territory. You're blessed with the spirit of adventure.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You have plenty to say — but make sure you can back up claims with facts and figures. Enemies will be looking for ways to trip you up. Don't make it easy for them.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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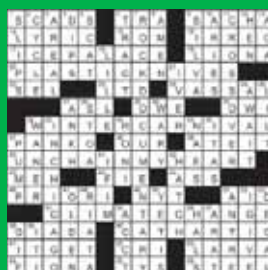
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